

Dear Colleagues:

Earlier this month, I discussed with the Executive Management Team my desire to develop a new strategic plan for the agency. It has been five years since the FAA initiated such an effort, and with the change in Administrators this seems an appropriate time once again to ask ourselves some fundamental questions such as: What do we stand for? What are we here to do? Where do we want to go?

To develop an effective strategic plan, we need to capture the best thinking of the entire agency, so I am asking your help in setting a new direction for the FAA. We have set up a Lotus Notes mailbox at 9-AWA-APO-Strategic Planning where until February 14 you can send your thoughts and ideas. To help get you started, I would suggest you focus on the following areas: What are the FAA's strengths that we can build on? What are our weaknesses, as evidenced by the major criticisms of our customers and stakeholders, and your own experience? What new opportunities are there to best help us achieve our mission? What are the major threats to achieving our mission? What goals and strategies would you suggest to guide us over the next 5 years and beyond?

These are critical questions we need to address at a challenging time for the traveling public and the industry we serve and at a time when we ourselves are challenged to make the most effective use of scarce resources. So, we need the benefit of your best thinking. I look forward to your thoughts and suggestions.

Marion C. Blakey
Administrator